



May 1, 2020 | COVID-19 UPDATE

WHAT PARENTS AND STUDENTS SHOULD KNOW

This week we are proceeding with our continuation of learning plan, and our schools remain closed to the public. As District we are engaged in doing our very best to help minimize the spread of COVID 19 in our communities.

WHAT IS THE DISTRICT'S CONTINUATION OF LEARNING PLAN?

Our District will facilitate the continuation of learning during the pandemic. Depending on the class and grade level, this may include various ways of connecting electronically to provide links to information, and assignments and projects tied to the objectives of the curriculum. We have Ministry of Education Guidelines and a Rocky Mountain Continuity of Learning Framework supporting this work. These guiding documents are regularly updated.

WHAT HAPPENED THIS WEEK?

- Teachers continue working with students and families on learning opportunities
- Schools continue to provide for "Learners at School" - the children of Essential Services Workers who require our assistance
- Schools have been reaching out to families to provide other school services that may have been interrupted by the pandemic
- Greater numbers of students are attending schools for supervision and support where it makes sense because of their unique circumstance. Please contact your school Principal if this applies to your situation.

New

WHAT IS HAPPENING OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS?

Teachers will continue to provide learning opportunities, resources and encouragement. Please stay connected with your child's teacher(s) and support staff as needed. Communicate needs so they can be addressed to the best of our ability. In particular, let staff know about what is needed for children with disabilities and diverse abilities so everyone has the best opportunities to learn possible.

Students may be having increasing concerns about completing their ongoing coursework/grade. This may be a worrisome topic for students in Grade 12 in particular. The Ministry and the District are not mandating a specific number of hours that students need to complete, because hours do not necessarily reflect the

amount of learning that happens. Taking individual needs into account, Teachers will focus on determining that sufficient learning has taken place during these exceptional circumstances. Students are expected to continue their learning, complete assignments, and stay involved. Everyone will receive a final grade in each course/subject, and it will be based on their learning up to this point and to the end of the year. The main thing is to stay involved with your school work, ask questions and get help where needed.

Secondary Students will have a mark entered for Term 3 for each subject area. While it will not be a formal report card, the mark will be made available to parents in the MyEd BC Student Portal. Schools will send home instructions to parents on how to obtain the information.

We have received no specific direction regarding the potential return of face to face instruction, or on what timeline that may occur. We will respond to the situation as it evolves, following the direction of the Provincial Health Officer and Ministry of Education.

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF PARENTS AND GUARDIANS?

- We realize parents are not (necessarily) teachers and we will be doing all we can to support student learning remotely.
- Continue to watch for and respond to emails and/or phone calls. Many teachers may block their phone number while calling parents. Other will contact you through their computer using Microsoft Teams. Please pick up these calls so you get the information you need and respond to the communication you receive from teachers or other school staff.
- Make sure the school has your up-to-date email and phone contact information and phone the school if there are changes.
- There are links to digital resources for parents on the district website that will help extend and support learning at home. Make sure you check out the Remote Learning Support feature on the main page of the sd6 website. It's on the scrolling picture feature.
- The time commitment required from parents will depend on a number of factors including the grade level of the student and the approach used by the school and individual teacher.
- Please do not enter your school building unless you make an appointment with the principal.

PLEASE STAY SAFE AND FOLLOW THE PROVINCIAL HEALTH OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATIONS

- Regularly wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with your elbow or use a tissue.
- Stay home as much as possible and reduce your physical contact with others.
- Physical distancing means staying 2 metres away from others and limiting the number of people you come into close contact with.

